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Honorable J.W. Fulbright, Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Secretary Kissinger has asked me to reply to your letter of September 24, 1973 concerning the nomination of women as representatives and alternate representatives to our delegation to the United Nations General Assembly.

The Department welcomes the expression of interest of the Foreign Relations Committee on this subject. We share the view that the talents of American women should be utilized at the United Nations to the maximum possible extent. We are proud of the women who have served as representatives or alternate representatives in the past. Women have been included on all recent delegations and their contributions have been considerable.

As you know, the UN Participation Act and the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations limit each nation to a total of ten representatives and alternates. Each year two positions are filled by members of Congress and some others are traditionally filled by the Permanent United States Representative to the United Nations and his principal deputies. The number of positions remaining to be filled each year, therefore, is relatively small. However, I can assure the committee that qualified women will not be neglected in our search for distinguished Americans from varying backgrounds to fill these important positions.

Sincerely yours,

Marshall Wright  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations

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